

The CASM Cultural Garden celebrates the diversity of Mandurah's local flora and the traditional knowledge of the Noongar people. Through community workshops, educational programs and self-guided walks, the garden provides visitors with a deeper appreciation of the rich history of Mandurah's community and the many uses of endemic species.

The garden contains almost forty species of local plants that have traditional significance to the Noongar people. These plants can be used today for contemporary bush cuisine, eco-dyeing and textile arts.

The twelve plants featured have fascinating stories and are available in nurseries for the home garden. Planting local native species helps support our wildlife and create a sustainable resource for further exploration of these wonderful plants.

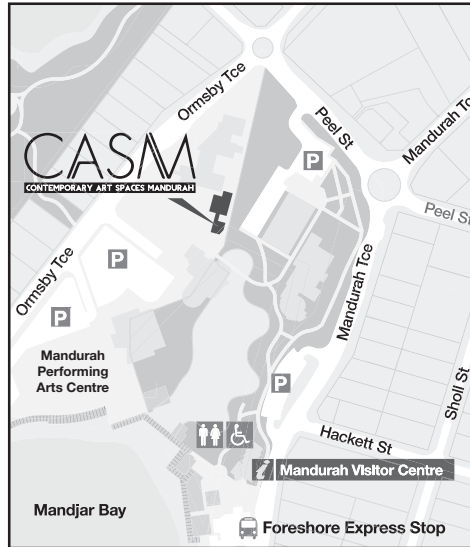
Please note: As with all bush food experimentation, it is vital to correctly identify plants before tasting, and start with a small sample to check for any adverse effects.



Soul Trantino and Zaedyn Turner watching frogs!

**Photo credits**

Cover: (Dianella revoluta): Beatte Kratt  
 Inside and back: Helen Coleman



**CASM Cultural Garden**

63 Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah  
 (Behind Contemporary Art Spaces Mandurah)  
 Open Hours: Wed – Sun, 10am – 4pm  
[www.artspacesmandurah.com.au](http://www.artspacesmandurah.com.au)

**For more information contact**

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**CASM CULTURAL GARDEN  
 PLANT GUIDE | MAY 2018**







**Acacia saligna**

Golden wreath wattle

Weeping shrub to small tree, to 3m high. Long, variable leaves, orange-yellow flowers. Seeds can be eaten raw or roasted. Traditionally seeds pounded to make damper, and bardi grubs harvested from the stems.



**Enchylaena tomentosa**

Snake bush

Prostrate shrub with succulent, finely hairy leaves. Flowers inconspicuous. Edible berries 5-8mm diameter, yellow to red when ripe. Leaves also edible, cook before eating to remove oxalates. Attracts birds and lizards to the garden.



**Lepidosperma gladiatum**

Sword sedge

Large perennial sedge with tough, sword-like leaves to 1.2m long, tall stems producing brown-black flower heads. Leaves used to make string and rope. Base of leaf edible, eaten raw or roasted.

**Atriplex isatidea**

Coast saltbush

Erect shrub to 3m high, silver-grey, thick leaves. Valuable grazing plant for livestock in arid areas. Salty leaves used dried as seasoning, blanched for spinach substitute, or deep-fried.



**Haemodorum spicatum**

Bloodroot

Tough grass-like shrub, round leaves up to 60cm long, flowering spike to 2m with black flowers. The bright red bulbous root is edible but spicy, eaten either raw or roasted. The roots can also be used as a dye.



**Kennedia prostrata**

Running postman

Ground creeper, spreading to 3m wide. Leaves in sets of 3, flowers red, pea-like. Flowers provide a sweet nectar, and the leaves can be used to make a liquorice-flavoured tea. The long stems are used for string and basketry.



**Carpobrotus virescens**

Pigface

Prostrate succulent, up to 3m wide. Leaves fleshy, 3-sided. Flowers purple. Fleshy fruits red when ripe, eaten fresh or dried, or as jam. Leaves can be eaten as a boiled vegetable.



**Hakea prostrata**

Harsh hakea

Spreading shrub or small tree, to 3m high. Leaves prickly-toothed, flowers clustered in leaf axils, seeds enclosed in woody fruit. Flower nectar used to make a sweet drink. Edible seeds gathered by roasting the woody fruits till they open.



**Myoporum insulare**

Blueberry tree

Dense shrub to 3m high (CASM Garden has prostrate form). Leaves soft and fleshy, the edible fruit is succulent, 3-4mm wide, purple when ripe. Bird-attracting shrub for gardens.

**Dianella revoluta**

Blueberry lily

Perennial herb to 1m tall, long straplike leaves, blue flowers. Edible purple berries, with a sweet, nutty flavour. Roots can be pounded, roasted then eaten. Leaves used for making string and weaving.



**Halosarcia halocnemoides**

Shrubby samphire

Salt-tolerant, spreading or erect shrub, to 50cm high, with succulent, jointed stems. The salty, tender new shoots can be eaten fresh or steamed, or pickled.



**Rhagodia baccata**

Berry saltbush

Spreading shrub up to 2m high, with separate male and female plants. Flowers clustered on spikes, female plants producing bright red berries. Another valuable arid stockfeed plant, this saltbush has edible leaves (when cooked), and tasty berries. Bird attracting plant for gardens.

